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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

30827

7590

08/08/2008

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

HUSSAIN, IMAD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2151

DATE MAILED: 08/08/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/558,435	11/29/2005	Sam-Chul Ha	7950.037.00	3517

TITLE OF INVENTION: HOME NETWORK SYSTEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	11/10/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
HUSSAIN, IMAD	2151	709-236000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 232 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 232 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/558,435

Examiner

IMAD HUSSAIN

Applicant(s)

HA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment dated 21 April 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5-8,10-11, 13-17,19,20,22 and 24-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

RESPONSE

1. Applicant's amendment dated 21 April 2008 has been received and made of record.
2. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-11, 13-17, 19-20, 22 and 24-27 have been amended. Claims 3-4, 9, 12, 18, 21, 23 and 28-54 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-11, 13-17, 19-20, 22 and 24-27 are currently pending.
3. Applicant's amendment obviates previously raised claim objection. As such, said objection is hereby withdrawn.
4. Applicant's amendment obviates previously raised 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection. As such, said rejection is hereby withdrawn.
5. Applicant's amendment obviates previously raised double patenting rejection. As such, said rejection is hereby withdrawn.
6. Applicant's amendment obviates previously raised 35 U.S.C. 103 rejections. As such, said rejections are hereby withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Angert on 24 July 2008.

The application has been amended as follows.

Please amend claim 1 as below:

~~A network electric device for communicating with other network electric device on a network by utilizing a protocol comprising an application layer, a network layer, a data link layer and a physical layer,~~

A computer readable storage device, storing a protocol data unit for use by a network electric device to communicate with other network devices, the protocol comprising:

an application layer,

a network layer,

a data link layer, and

a physical layer,

wherein the physical layer further comprises a special protocol for providing an interface with a dependent transmission medium, and the network layer further comprises a home code control sub-layer for managing a home code for network security when accessing the dependent transmission medium,

wherein an application layer protocol data unit (APDU) is transmitted between the application layer and the network layer, a network layer protocol data unit (NPDU) is transmitted between the network layer and the data link layer and between the network layer and the home code control sub-layer, a home code control sub-layer protocol data unit (HCNPDU) is transmitted between the home code control sub-layer and the data

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link layer, and a data frame unit is transmitted between the data link layer and the physical layer,

wherein the NPDU comprises an NPDU header, the APDU and an NPDU trailer,

wherein the NPDU header comprises a start of packet (SLP) field, a destination address (DA) field, a sender address (SA) field, a packet length (PL) field and a network layer control (NLC) field,

wherein the NLC field comprises a service priority (SP) field, an NPDU header length (NHL) field, a protocol version (PV) field, a network layer packet type (NPT) field, a transmission counter (TC) field and a packet number (PN) field, and

wherein the NPT field is set as a first code for a request packet, a second code for a successful response packet, a third code for a failed response packet, a fourth code for a notification packet, and a fifth code for an interface with the home code control sub-layer.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-11, 13-17, 19-20, 22 and 24-27 are allowed.
9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the closest prior art, Jae-Min Lee et al (*A New Home Network Protocol For Controlling And Monitoring Home Appliances – HNCP*, hereinafter **HNCP**) in view of S. Kent et al (*RFC 2401 Security Architecture for the Internet Protocol*, hereinafter **IPsec**) and in further view of Sam-Chul Ha et al (WO/2002/097555, hereinafter **NCS**), teaches some, but not all, elements of the claim.

Specifically, the combination of HNCP, IPsec, and NCS teaches *a network electric device* ["home appliance"] *for communicating with other network electric devices on a network* [HNCP: Page 312 Abstract] *by utilizing a protocol comprising an application layer, a network layer, a data link layer and a physical layer* [HNCP: Page 312 Section 2.2 Paragraph 1],

wherein the physical layer further comprises a special protocol for providing an interface [HNCP: "D type modem offers... physical layer", Page 313 Section 3 Paragraph 1] *with a dependent transmission medium* [HNCP: "Power Line Carrier", Figure 3] *and the network layer further comprises a home code control sub-layer for managing a home code for network security when accessing the dependent transmission medium* [IPsec: Page 6 Section 3.1, "cryptographic key", Page 6 Section 3.1],

wherein an application layer protocol data unit (APDU) is transmitted between the application layer and the network layer [HNCP: Figure 1], *a network layer protocol data unit (NPDU) is transmitted between the network layer and the data link layer and between the network layer and the home code control sub-layer* [IPsec: "tunneled IP packet", Page 7 Section 3.2], *a home code control sub-layer protocol data unit (HCNPDU) is transmitted between the home code control sub-layer and the data link layer* ["Bump-in-the-stack" implementation resides "between the native IP and the local network drivers", Page 8 Section 3.3, and "IP Encapsulation with IP", Page 31 Section 5.1.2], *and a data frame unit is transmitted between the data link layer and the physical layer,*

wherein the NPDU ["packet"] comprises an NPDU header ["header"], the APDU ["body"] and an NPDU trailer ["trailer"] [NCS: Figure 12],

wherein the NPDU header ["packet header"] comprises a start of packet (SLP) [LnCP "HC"] field, a destination address (DA) ["RA"] field, a sender address (SA) field, a packet length (PL) field and a network layer control (NLC) field ["AP" through "PN"] [NCS: Figure 12],

wherein the NLC field ["AP" through "PN"] comprises a service priority (SP) ["AP"] field, an NPDU header length (NHL) field ["PHL"], a protocol version (PV) field, a network layer packet type (NPT) ["PT"] field, a transmission counter (TC) ["RC"] field and a packet number (PN) field [NCS: Figure 12],

wherein the NPT ["PT"] field is set as a first code for a request packet, a second code for a successful response packet, a third code for a failed response packet, a fourth code for a notification packet [NCS: Page 16 Lines 17-25].

However, none of the aforementioned references, nor any others of which the examiner is aware that could be obviously combined with them, teach or suggest setting, within the network layer packet type field, *a fifth code for an interface with the home code control sub-layer.*

Accordingly, claim 1 is allowed.

The remaining claims (2, 5-8, 10-17, 19-20, 22 and 24-27) are dependent on allowed claim 1 and therefore also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to IMAD HUSSAIN whose telephone number is (571) 270-3628. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 0800 to 1700.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/IH/

Imad Hussain

Examiner, AU 2151

/Salad Abdullahi/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2157